

A B S T R A C T

A METHOD OF DETERMINING TIMING CLEARANCE FROM A POSITION
AND AN ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTIC

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A method of determining clearance between a stem (3) of a valve (1) in an engine (2) and a moving member (8) of an electromagnetic actuator (7) comprising electromagnetic displacement means (14, 15) for moving
10 the moving member between an extreme open position and an extreme closed position of the valve, the electromagnetic displacement means being controlled by servo-control means on the basis of a reference electrical characteristic, the method it comprising the steps of:
15 controlling the electromagnetic means to obtain a displacement speed that is substantially constant for the moving member between the extreme closed position and the extreme open position; obtaining values of the reference electrical characteristic for intermediate positions of
20 the moving member; and detecting an intermediate position at which the reference electrical characteristic is subject to a sudden change.

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Translation of the title and the abstract as they were when originally filed by the
35 Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that may have been made subsequently by the PCT Authorities acting ex officio, e.g. under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.